

CITY OF NORTHAMPTON

Mayor Mary Clare-Higgins-

City Hall
210 Main Street Room 12
Northampton, MA 01060-3199
(413) 587-1249 Fax: (413) 587-1275
mayor@northamptonma.gov

March 1, 2010

Secretary Ian A. Bowles
Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs
Attn: MEPA Office, EEA #12629
100 Cambridge Street, Suite 900
Boston, MA 02114-2524

RE: Notice of Project Change, EOEA 12629, Village Hill, Northampton

Dear Secretary Bowles:

On behalf of the Northampton Citizens Advisory Committee, I would like to add our support for the March 1, 2010 Notice of Project Change.

The Northampton Citizens Advisory Committee was initially created by the General Court as part of the disposition of the Northampton State Hospital (Chapter 86, Acts and Resolves of 1994) to provide for local input in the planning for the redevelopment of the Northampton State Hospital, now known as Village Hill. The CAC was expanded during the MEPA process to expand neighborhood representation and serve as the local sounding board for all MEPA planning issues. All master plans for Village Hill must be approved by the CAC.

Last year, after holding public meetings, the CAC approved the project proponent's request to amend the master plan to increase the number of housing units on the property and, acknowledging that industrial and office space is increasing on the south campus to with the construction of the Kollmorgen, to reduce the amount of commercial and office space on the north campus. The Notice of Project Change reflects this approval.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

MARY CLARE HIGGINS Mayor of Northampton